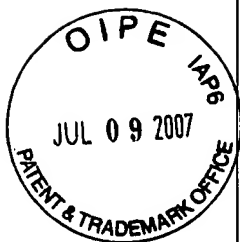


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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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Application of :
Kenji KATO et al. :
Appln. No. 09/582,903 : Group Art Unit: 2627
Filed: August 11, 2000 : Examiner: Tan X. Dinh
For: NEAR-FIELD OPTICAL HEAD :
HAVING TAPERED HOLE FOR
GUIDING LIGHT BEAM : Docket No. S004-4034 (PCT)
(As amended)

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Mail Stop Amendment
COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. BOX 1450
ALEXANDRIA, VA 22313-1450

RESPONSE

S I R:

In response to the Office Action dated April 4, 2007, applicants respond without further amendments to the claims as follows:

ADDITIONAL FEES:

No additional fees are believed required in connection with this response; however, should it be determined that a fee is due, authorization is hereby given to charge any such fee to our Deposit Account No. 01-0268.

MAILING CERTIFICATE ON PAGE 25